

Home Loan Corporation Aid Is Denied Negroes

By Cyril Briggs

Government discrimination against Negroes once more stands exposed—this time in the functioning of the Home Owners Loan Corporation.

The HOLC is one of the many alphabetical panaceas set up by President Roosevelt, and which are functioning mostly on paper. The HOLC is supposed to be the answer to the prayers of tens of thousands of harassed small home owners threatened with loss of their homes by foreclosure. In most cases, these homes represent the life savings of these homeowners.

The case of Daisy Jones, 131st Street, New York City, is typical of the attitude of the HOLC toward small home owners. It is typical, particularly of the wide spread discrimination by HOLC officials against Negroes.

Miss Jones, a Negro worker, slaved and sacrificed all her life to put aside "something for old age," under a system which throws its aged workers on the scrapheap.

Today she is facing not only the loss of her home, but of her health and the only means of livelihood available to her during the present prolonged dislocation of capitalist industry, with its unemployment and suffering for over 14,000,000 workers and their dependents.

Rules Against Negroes

Miss Jones is unemployed, but because she is a home owner she cannot get relief. And because she has to take in paying lodgers, the HOLC now rules that she cannot get a government loan.

This ruling is made under a new HOLC provision, popularly known in Harlem as the "Rooming House Alibi." It was adopted several months after Miss Jones had made her application for a loan, but it has been invoked against this woman as against thousands of other Negro small homeowners.

What Is to Be Done?

Against what group is the Rooming House Alibi particularly aimed? Bear in mind the widespread discrimination against Negroes, the vast number of unemployed Negro workers—out of all proportion to the Negro population; the lower wages paid Negroes, the thousand and one other discriminations they suffer in relief and other fields. Out of these conditions arise the eco-

stop its cynical discrimination against them—discrimination which objectively plays into the hands of grasping finance corporations holding mortgages on their properties.

In many parts of the country Small Home Owners Associations have been organized and are functioning effectively where they link up their struggles with the general struggles of the working class. Actively aided by the Communist Party, the Unemployment Councils and other militant organizations, these associations of small home owners have wrested many concessions from the H. O. L. C. and the mortgagees.

Federal Funds - 1935

Macon County To Receive \$13,200 for Secondary Roads Immediately

Tuskegee News
7-18-35
Tuskegee

The following telegram has been received from Washington, D. C.:

Washington, D. C., July 15, 1935.

"The President has just allocated thirteen thousand two hundred dollars for grading, draining, and surfacing secondary county roads in Macon County."

As stated in the above telegram this money is to be spent for grading, draining and surfacing secondary County roads. It seems to be the concensus of opinion that this money should be used to complete the road to Hurtsboro from Tuskegee. Some four or five miles of this road was graded from Tuskegee by the C. W. A. something like a year ago. As the telegram states that this money is to be used on secondary roads it becomes apparent that the county road from Tuskegee to Hurtsboro is the only logical road on which this money may properly be spent.

The News editor and other citizens have heretofore advocated the

feasibility and importance of constructing this road but hindrances developed that made it impracticable, and we might say impossible, to get available funds with which to complete this road.

This \$13,200 has been allocated and is immediately available to be expended on this road.

This \$13,200 that has been allocated and set apart for secondary roads in Macon County will be handled through the relief office in Montgomery.

We have no official announcement coming from the Board of Revenue due to the fact that they have not been officially advised from relief headquarters concerning the exact date that this account can be drawn on. The Board of Revenue may have an announcement to make next week.

The telegram gives authentic information that the money has been allocated. This is the important thing.

Federal Funds - 1935.

NEWPORT NEWS IS SITE; RACE EXPERTS USED

WASHINGTON, March 28.—(ANP)—The governmental program for the development of subsistence homesteads which has been designed to improve the economic, social and living status of the families of workers in the lower income brackets, by providing them with homes in federally built communities, is at last definitely under way. The first unit, which is to be occupied and managed by Negroes will be located at Newport News, Va. It was approved last week by Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes. The subsistence homesteads division is part of the Public Works Administration by which Mr. Ickes is administrator.

The Newport News unit, comprising 200 acres and accommodating 100 families, will cost \$245,000. It will be located two and a half miles from the city on Aberdeen road, a paved highway. Thirty three-room, 50 four-room, and 20 five-room houses will be constructed. They will be equipped with modern conveniences, including electric light, running water, extended from Newport News, bathrooms, etc. Auxiliary buildings will consist of poultry houses, stables and pig pens.

Twelve of the homesteaders will have mules to work their own and their neighbor's gardens, and 12 will have cows, thereby serving the community with milk. 1000 laying hens and 25,000 baby chicks will be apportioned. Orchards for each homestead will include apple, pear and peach trees while a large number of strawberry plants are to be purchased.

The cost per unit will run from \$2,000 to \$2,600, depending upon the size of the lot and the house. The homes are to be purchased by the homesteaders and 30 years will be given for payment with interest at 3 per cent.

Because new paths were being charted, progress has been made slowly and the difficulty encountered in some sections in securing the admission of Negroes into the proposed settlements as well as opposition to the development of separate Negro communities under

the delay in projects which might be designed primarily for Negroes was a recent decision of the United States Solicitor-General that agricultural communities could not be established under the terms of the act which specified city inhabitants.

The new legislation has a provision in it for 100 million dollars to be devoted to an extension of the subsistence program. Twenty per cent of the total has been asked for possible projects for colored families on the basis of need.

Town Rising On Cumberland Ridge As 200 Families Build New Homes

Answer To Jackson County's Problem Of Farmers Without Farms

The Jackson County rehabilitation project by which the men in 200 stranded families are building homes for themselves has been formally named "Cumberland Farms," R. K. Greene, director of the Alabama Rehabilitation Corporation, announced yesterday following his return from Washington where final approval of the entire project was obtained. Mr. Greene, who won national renown for the success of the rural rehabilitation program in Alabama last year, will have charge of the Cumberland Farms project, as well as the Coffee County rehabilitation project, as director of the Alabama Rural Rehabilitation Corporation.

Behind the rehabilitation project in Jackson County is a story replete with the drama of achievement and the hope of persons forced into idleness for a chance to work again. Last Fall 200 families were on relief in Jackson County. They were stranded, without farms, without hope of obtaining a farm to share or rent.

Work Director Ross, director of the supervision of the works division, headed by Fred Smith, director of operations, of the Alabama Rehabilitation Corporation's attention to the availability of some 8,000 acres of land and timber on the Cumberland ridge. Investigation showed that this land was of high fertility, and a lease, with option to purchase was executed by the Rehabilitation Corporation.

Once the lease had been approved Director Ross assembled members of the staff, A. W. Dubois, E. B. Johnson and John Herrick, commended warmly this week the efficiency of some of their colored co-workers and indicated that they felt the interest of colored Americans were entirely safe in their hands. They were especially generous in their praise of the work of Planner Otis who, they said, had demonstrated an ability equal to any expert on the staff, regardless of color.

Among the reasons assigned for

Work Divided
Some would operate a sawmill to cut lumber to build homes. Others would fell trees. Some would man logging teams and haul logs and lumber. Some would be assigned to grubbing stumps and clearing new ground, for all of the land was unimproved. Still others would be assigned to cooking and washing dishes and washing clothes. Thus they would build houses, clear new ground and prepare farms and home sites.

Having outlined the proposition Director Ross called to the men:

"All who are willing to go into this and stay with it step across the line." He drew a line on the ground. Only four men turned back, refused to cross the line. Their whereabouts today is not known to Director Ross.

First the barracks was constructed. Then the building of homes was begun. Each worker is credited with his "time" but none has received pay for his labor. The men sing as they work on the houses and the cry that greets Work Director Ross when he visits the workers is "more homes and better homes."

As rapidly as the homes are completed the families are moved in. Once the full 200 homes have been completed a new community or town will have been started on Cumberland Ridge.

All construction work is under the supervision of the works division, headed by Fred Smith, director of operations, of the Alabama Rehabilitation Corporation, and A. J. Hawkins, director of the planning division, and formerly city engineer of Birmingham.

The houses are mostly of four, five and six-room size, commodious, and with closet space designed for conversion into bathrooms at some later date. They will be built about a quarter of a mile apart, and with each house will be assigned 30 or 40 acres.

Two Houses A Week
The houses are being constructed at the rate of two each week.

"The plan for the homes as drawn by the Planning Division of the ARA and the details of construction as supervised by the operations department," Mr. Greene said, "was highly complimented by the authorities in Washington."

"The project is designed to be self-liquidating and we are undertaking to operate it upon a practical basis. The

total cost of the project will be equal to the cost of the land, all materials and equipment and all labor.

"This cost, to the individual families, will vary according to the size of the home and outbuildings.

"The men are credited with \$1.20 a day for their work and from this is deducted the amount advanced them for subsistence and for the subsistence of their families.

"Credits above the cost of subsistence will be payable only as a part payment on the land or homestead."

Thus if a man has \$180 credit for labor, this amount is added into the sale price of the home and he is credited with \$180 payment on the house, Mr. Greene explained. This, he said, encourages the men to work, and places a premium upon efficiency, for literally if the worker idles he would be "loafing on his own time."

Mr. Greene estimated that the cost of each home and 40 acres would range from \$1,000 to \$1,700, depending upon the size of the home and outbuildings.

If any of the workers should decide to quit the project, he said, all overtime work the quitter had put into the project would automatically reduce the cost of the project by that amount for those who remain.

The lease option to purchase was exercised some time ago, Mr. Greene said.

Petition Battles Homestead Idea

Project For Negroes In Montgomery Opposed; Fight Led By Upchurch

Opposition has arisen to the Government's plan of locating a subsistence homestead project for negroes on the south side of Fairview Avenue beginning at a point 1,273 feet from the extension of Cleveland Avenue and extending to the property of Southern Dairies, Inc. The site selected for the project includes 771-2 acres of land.

A petition was being circulated yesterday by Robert Upchurch, well known business man of the city, requesting the Department of Interior to select another location for the project. Mr. Upchurch said a large number of property owners and other Montgomery citizens interested in the development of that section as a residential district for white signed the petition Monday. Others will be given an opportunity to add their signatures today and during the week.

The signers point out that the location of the homestead project in this particular place is not only unsuitable for the purpose intended for, but will seriously impair the value of the prop-

erty immediately adjoining the land, the money will, of course, go else- ing the project. which it was claimed, is one of the where. I must say the objection by The Halleck letter, in which the most desirable residential sections of the Indianapolis Real Estate Board representative quoted a communica- the city. The negro colony. Mr. Up- is consistent with its known atti- tion from Charles E. Pynchon of church contends, will deter the further tude toward the Negro. I do not Washington, general manager of the development of that part of the city. know of a single instance where the division of subsistence homestead, concluded:

Two copies of the petition are being prepared, one to be sent to the sub- Indianapolis Real Estate Board has sistance homestead division of the De- attempted to better the housing con- sition of the department and the ad- partment of Interior in Washington and ditions for Negroes. The real estate ministration on the matter of subsis- the other to be turned over to the men, however, are quick to sponsor tence homesteads, and I understand Montgomery Real Estate Exchange. exclusive white neighborhoods, and from the letter that they intend to go ahead with the project of which your board and others have voted

Reports yesterday were that, while the site has been approved for the project, the land has not actually been acquired by the Government. Mr. Upchurch said he and others who have signed the petition are not opposed to the Depart- ment of Interior providing homesteads for negro families in Montgomery County but thought a more suitable location for the project could be had. "In fact, I would like very much for the Govern- ment to carry through its program if some other more suitable location could be secured," Petitioner Upchurch stated. Announcement was made here several weeks ago that the Government had selected the Fairview Avenue property for the subsistence homestead experiment and that inexpensive but comfortable houses would be erected for negro fam- ilies. A vegetable garden is included in the plans for each house. The Govern- ment proposes to sell the property to the deserving negroes on easy payment plans.

Announcement was made here several weeks ago that the Government had selected the Fairview Avenue property for the subsistence homestead experiment and that inexpensive but comfortable houses would be erected for negro fam- ilies. A vegetable garden is included in the plans for each house. The Govern- ment proposes to sell the property to the deserving negroes on easy payment plans.

Home Subsistence Colony Banned in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES.—(CNP)— Efforts of the government to establish a home subsistence colony near here for Negroes were summarily defeat- ed when whites in the vicinity prompted by propaganda dissemi- nated by suburban chambers of commerce, organized relentless op- position to the colony.

An option which had been acquir- ed on the property, picked for the site of the colony, was allowed to expire.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

NEWS

MAR 27 1935

Subsistence Homesteads

To the Editor of The News:

I appreciate your very fine ed- itorial of some days ago in connec- tion with the Indianapolis subsist- ence homestead project. Frankly speaking, it is hard to understand the objection to such a project by any one who is interested in the fu- ture of Indianapolis and Marion county. The sum of \$25,000,000 has been appropriated for the subsist- ence homesteads project; \$2,500,000 of this has been allocated for col- ored, or largely colored, projects. All over the United States people are seeking to bring one of these proj- ects to their city and county. There- fore, if for any reason the one con- templated here is not approved

Indianapolis.
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
STAR

MAR 29 1935
GIVE UP FIGHT
ON HOMESTEAD

Real Estate Board Plans
Passive Resistance—U.
S. Letter Raps Stand.

Passive resistance to the proposed Federal subsistence homestead proj- ect for Wayne township, west of Indianapolis, will be the attitude of the Indianapolis Real Estate Board Paul L. McCord, president, indicated yesterday.

The realtors declined to take fur- ther action at their luncheon meet- ing in the Hotel Washington after Frank L. Moore, executive secretary, read a letter from Representative Charles A. Halleck of Logansport, in answer to a resolution sent him by the Real Estate Board condemn-

F. B. RANSOM.
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
TIMES

MAR 30 1935
THE HOMESTEAD PROJECT

WITH articulate opposition in full swing against the proposed subsistence home- stead project in Wayne Township, it seems only fair that some mention should be made of the government's side of the story.

The situation, stripped of all opinion, is this:

At the last session of Congress, \$25,000,000 was appropriated for building subsistence homesteads and of this amount \$2,500,000 was allocated for projects in which the home- steads would be largely Negroes. Indian- apolis is merely appealing for a share of it, since Federal surveys show this city to have some of the worst housing facilities for Ne- groes in the United States.

The local project calls for the purchase of 310 acres in Wayne Township. Local labor only is to be used and the maximum cost of the project has been set at \$490,000. Wayne Township was selected by the committee in charge of the planning because, with the ex- ception of Center, it has the largest popula-

tion of Negroes in Marion County. There is already a settlement of Negroes near the pro- posed site and also a Negro cemetery. The planning and engineering has been done by the State Planning Board and by volunteer local technicians working under the direction of the Department of Interior's Subsistence Homesteads Division.

THE project calls for the settling of 140 families with no racial discrimination to be made in the selection. The families were to be chosen from those with incomes ranging from \$700 to \$1500 a year and some families with higher incomes were to be in- cluded for community leadership purposes. The settlement is to be under Federal super- vision through a federally-appointed project manager who will administer the business management and act as the community leader.

State and Federal agencies, along with lo- cal social service units, will co-operate in agricultural, civic and social programs for the homesteaders and some co-operative business enterprises may be run by the community, such as a grocery, filling station and dairy.

The homesteaders are to be selected from those employed in Indianapolis industries, who during "slack" seasons or due to short- work weeks will be able to raise their own subsistence and thus maintain, or raise, their standard of living. It is not a relief measure and is not designed for persons who are un- employed or unemployable.

One of the problems presented by Wayne Township officials is that of schooling. The Subsistence Homesteads Division asked if the government would build a school on the site and lease it or sell it over a long term, would it be accepted by the township and main- tained?

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES realizes com- pletely the problem facing Wayne Town- ship in its schooling facilities. Wayne Town- ship is faced with an acute over-crowding prob- lem and The Times takes the position that the government and Wayne Township should get "heads together" as soon as possible to iron out all possible points of the Federal offer, should the homestead project be approved.

The cost of the land is approximately \$28,000, leaving \$462,000 to be spent for local labor and building materials.

Objections have been made that the site's proximity is "within 100 yards of the Girl Scout Camp," but homestead officials point out that actually the nearest part of the tract is a half mile from any part of the 400 acres held by the Girl Scouts and a mile by road from the Scout entrance gate.

In further debate on the subject, it is only

fair that proponents of the measure study carefully every objection voiced and equally fair that every opponent study the proponents' side of the story.

January 18, 1935

Cancel Plan for Homestead Here

Senator Writes That Ruling Definitely Prevents Local Project

The subsistence homestead project for Negro farmers which at one time seemed virtually assured for Orangeburg county, has been definitely discarded, according to a letter recently received from Senator James F. Byrnes.

After securing the general approval of officials in subsistence homestead department, the project seemed certain of completion. But a recent ruling of the Solicitor General cancelled all projects of this sort, restricting the homesteads to those designed to redistribute overpopulation in urban centers.

Mr. Byrnes' letter follows:

"Dear Sir:

"After I came to Washington I took up with the Subsistence Homestead Department the matter of the application of Orangeburg County for the establishment of a project there. The General Manager states that under a recent ruling of the Solicitor General it will be impossible to proceed with the Subsistence Homestead Project for Agricultural Workers.

"I certainly regret that we received encouragement for this project and now find that it cannot go through."

Sincerely yours,

James F. Byrnes.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

REPUBLICAN

FEB 2 1935

A PWA Negro Colony

One of the most interesting projects to which encouragement has been lent by the public works administration at Washington is the construction of a housing plant for a Negro colony in Calvert county, Maryland. Plans have been developed through the joint efforts of the public works administration and Howard university, the celebrated Negro institution in Washington. These plans would place

an initial population of 2000 on a 500-acre tract and call for 113 cottages, a factory, power house, a modern hotel, a cooperative department store and a farm dairy.

It appears that a company already engaged in the manufacture of rugs has agreed to employ an all-Negro force if this plan for Calvert Town, as it is to be called, goes through. All the buildings would be of permanent construction, including 17 farm dwellings for subsistence homesteaders. Such a project would challenge the best cooperative efforts of the town's inhabitants and the results in actual experience should furnish some valuable comparisons. The estimated cost is \$9,500,000, which seems high for a colony of such size and may have been inaccurately reported.

**200 ACRES
PURCHASED
FOR SITE**

**Model Community To
Accommodate 100**

Families

TO COST \$280,000

Peninsula Project

**Only One In The
Upper South**

NEWPORT NEWS—Operations began this week on the first approved subsistence homestead project in the upper South with the arrival of officials from Washington to oversee the transformation of 200 barren acres of land into a model community for 100 families.

Homes varying in size from three to seven rooms will be built on plots of from one to three acres according to present plans. In

addition a community center and other public buildings will be erected for the mutual use of the homesteaders.

Possessors of the homes will be chosen from a list of almost 200 applicants who have designated their homes by making small payments to the government over 20 or 30 years will make the modern dwellings available to families of very modest means.

\$280,000 Investment
The entire project will represent an investment of \$280,000 by the government. A plan of purchasing the homes by making small payments to the government over 20 or 30 years will make the modern dwellings available to families of very modest means.

Credit for the original idea goes to members of the staff at Hampton Institute who presented the proposal to local citizens. Their cooperation together with the interest of Senator Byrd and Representative S. Otis Bland, who have consistently pressed the Homestead Corporation officials in Washington for action and Homer Ferguson, president, Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Docking Company and L. U. Noland, former president, Virginia State Chamber of Commerce brought the matter to fruition.

Those consulted by William M. Cooper, director, extension department, Hampton Institute, and who were formed into the committee which launched the project are Prof. T. C. Erwin, who was made chairman of the local committee, A. F. Williams, John S. Smith, Prof. L. S. Palmer, Dr. A. A. Galvin, N. F. Freeman and Mrs. C. E. Joes who comprised the committee.

Howard University Architect
Mr. Cooper, President Arthur Howe, of Hampton Institute and L. E. Wilson, secretary, People's Building Loan Association of Hampton formed the advisory committee on the project.

Hillyard Roberston, of Howard University faculty was made architect in charge of the planning of the project while J. R. Otis worked with him in investigating the merits of the application.

Only One In Upper South
The tract was purchased from the Old Dominion Land Company and is located on Aberdeen Road three miles from Hampton near Big Bethel. Formal announcement of the sale of the land to the government for the project was made last week.

So far as is known this is the only homestead project which has been approved between Alabama and Maryland. Both of these, it is

understood, have been abandoned temporarily.

Actual improvement of the tract is expected to begin within two months time after preliminary work has been completed. It is not known when the new community will be opened to its inhabitants.

**Coffee County
Linked To Prove
Homestead Plan**

**Government Taking Over
59,000 Acres In Hands
Of Federal Land Bank**

\$2,000,000 Deal

**Proposed By Graves And
Ratified In Washington
To Give 1,000 Homes**

A minimum of 1,000 Alabama farmers and farm families now on relief rolls are to be made self-supporting homesteaders and eventual home-owners through the putting into effect immediately of a plan originated and worked out by Gov. Graves which has just been given final approval by Federal authorities, for the creating of individual farm tracts with housing and all other facilities provided, on approximately 59,000 acres of agricultural land in Coffee County, valued at around \$600,000, which was acquired by the Federal Land Bank through mortgage foreclosures and is now the property of the Federal Government.

Coffee County is to be the testing ground for the plan, with the Federal Government making an investment of some \$2,000,000 and the State spending about \$10,000, in its development. If it succeeds, the probability is, it is understood, relief officials in Washington will give it a Statewide and nationwide application that will involve hundreds of thousands of additional acres of farm land and the expenditure of hundreds of millions of dollars in "back-to-the-land" movement on an unprecedented scale.

Formal announcement was made by Gov. Graves yesterday that agreement has been reached between the Alabama Rural Rehabilitation Corporation and the Federal Land Bank of New Orleans for the transfer to the Corporation of all the

holdings of the Bank in Coffee County, totaling approximately 59,000 acres of farm land. In the working out of the plan for making 1,000 farmers and farm families self-supporting, the Relief Corporation is to begin immediately the improvement of these lands and the construction of farm units that are to be sold to rural rehabilitation families on long-term contracts.

Comer Closed Deal

The transaction involving the land valued at a total of \$600,000 received final approval, it was stated, at a conference in Washington between Donald Comer, of Birmingham, chairman of the executive committee of the Alabama Rural Rehabilitation Corporation, and Col. Lawrence Westbrook, assistant administrator of the FERA in charge of Rural Rehabilitation. It is estimated that 25 per cent of the acreage is submarginal and best suited to timber production and pasture—while the other 75 per cent of the total acreage, approximately 90 per cent of the total open acreage or slightly over 20,000 acres, is suitable for general agricultural purposes and can be improved into suitable farm units. An estimate of slightly over 20,000 acres of woodland is suitable for general agricultural purposes and it is estimated that half of this, or approximately 10,000 acres, can be developed in the next few years.

While specific plans will depend upon surveys which the Alabama Rural Rehabilitation Corporation will begin tomorrow, with the aid of Federal Land Bank officials, the general plan, it was announced, contemplates the erection of houses to each 40 acres with fencing, terracing, and other improvements to make the farm units which will pay for themselves under normal conditions. The plan is projected on the basis of allowing the rural rehabilitation families to pay for their homes within 15 to 20 years, while unproductive land is being improved or devoted to other uses such as recreation facilities, game preserves, and reforestation.

Approval of the plan in Washington is in the opinion of Gov. Graves, the biggest thing that has come to Alabama out of the New Deal. This approval follows within a few days, his return from the national capital where he spent nearly a week conferring with Federal relief authorities.

Graves Advanced Plan

There are, the Chief Executive said yesterday, 434,000 acres of land in Alabama, owned by the Federal Land Bank which took them under mortgage foreclosures, the cost of these lands amounting to about \$6,000,000. Pointing out that the lands are accumulating tax while nothing is being gotten out of them by the Bank, he said he called the attention of authorities in Washington to this situation with the reminder that the properties are worse than "frozen" as sets—that they are "crystallized," and

further, that the bank is actually "land poor." At the same time, he said, he reminded them that there are 23,000 farmers on relief in Alabama, and recommended the combination of the idle acres and the farmers for the benefit of all concerned.

In making that recommendation, the Governor presented his plan, with the result that it was promptly approved, and Alabama and Coffee County chosen for its testing. This was done with assurances from the Governor that the Agricultural Extension Service would be expanded to a sufficient extent to provide supervision of the farming activities of all the farm homesteaders, so that the test will be a "real" test in every respect. The Chief Executive also guaranteed the services of an adequate number of home demonstration agents to show the women of the farm families how to can and preserve the surplus of the farms produce; efficient public health service by reinforcing public health units; the services of welfare workers, modern school facilities and good roads.

The Governor estimated that about \$1,200 will be expended in getting each farm ready for operation, fully equipped with buildings and all livestock necessary for making a start. Everything will be done, in fact, he said, to make the test area an ideal small-farm-owner community.

Birmingham, Ala. News
March 13, 1935

NEW HOMESTEAD PROJECT OKEHED

5,500 Families Covered In
Plan, Latest For Negroes

WASHINGTON—(P)—The number of industrial families whom the federal government plans to set up in new country homes rose to over 5,500 Wednesday as Secretary Ickes approved a subsistence homestead project at Newport News, Va.

Ickes allotted \$245,000 for the community, the second to be set up for Negroes. One hundred families are to be accommodated. Speaking of the projects in general, officials said 223 homes had been completed, of which 211 were occupied, and that work on 1,339 others either was under way or would begin this Spring.

Average cost of the houses, complete with electrical fixtures and small gardens, is set at about \$3,000. Average payments of about \$150 a year (\$50.50 for each \$1,000 of the purchase price) are to cover 3 per cent interest and amortize the loan after 30 years.

The Subsistence Homesteads Corporation, given an initial PWA allotment of \$25,000,000, has had \$10,000,000 of its funds impounded for possible transfer to the relief administration.

Most of the communities are located near existing factories, but private manufacturers are expected to set up plants at others, including Reidsville, W. Va. Most of the settlers chosen are on relief.

FIVE HOUSING PROJECTS FOR RACE UNDERWAY

Journal
and Guide
Nine Others To Give
Negroes 14 of 34
In Nation

3-23-35

WASHINGTON—(ANP) The impressive effort of the Roosevelt Administration to better the housing facilities of the disadvantaged and low-income city dwellers of the country, through a slum clearance and low-cost housing program

is making steady progress. Negroes are sharing generously in the program which is being pushed in a number of cities in various sections of the country. Fourteen of the 34 projects thus far contemplated are designed primarily to attract Negro tenancy, five of these being already under way.

The most advanced projects are located in Atlanta, Ga., Cleveland, Ohio, Detroit, Mich., Indianapolis, Ind., and Montgomery, Ala.

Nine Other Projects
In addition nine others are in various stages of development out of allotments made from the \$150,000,000 appropriated by congress for low cost housing. The total sum set aside for the five Negro projects is \$14,601,191. These developments will house a total of 3,752 families and will contain 13,309 rooms.

Construction is ready to begin in Atlanta, bids having already been accepted. In Indianapolis, the Negro unit being the only one provided for that city. Demolition of houses in the selected area has been completed.

In Detroit, architects are being considered. In Montgomery, specifications are being drawn while in Cleveland, demolition is ready to start.

Types of structures to be erected vary in different cities. In the larger towns the apartment house type is being used almost exclusively. In other places two or three-story flats and row houses are included in a single project.

The average rental will range from less than \$4 per room, the expected rent charge in Montgomery, without heat, to a rate of slightly more than \$7 per room in some of the larger centers where

more facilities will be added and of the housing division. costs are higher.

The University Project

The university project at Atlanta, so named because fronts it on Atlanta Univ., is the most advanced of the group. Two million one hundred thousand dollars has been allotted for it.

Six hundred and seventeen living units will be provided, in two and three story apartments and row houses. Facilities included are, a day nursery, kindergarten, and community laundries. Unusually shacks formerly occupied the site.

Cleveland's development will cost \$3,000,000. Accommodations will be provided for 635 families. It will be known as the Outhwaite Development.

Indianapolis' will also cost \$3,000,000. One thousand and forty-four living apartments will be provided here.

Detroit has \$6,000,000 set aside for it. The actual size has not been determined depending upon the extent of the site which they are able to acquire.

Montgomery's project will consist of 160 row houses and will cost \$320,000.

Beautiful Surroundings

The surroundings planned for the structures are expected to be particularly attractive. In no instance will the buildings occupy more than 30 per cent of the land. The rest will be devoted to landscape, playgrounds, drive ways, parking facilities and similar uses.

The projects are sponsored either by non-profit corporations formed by local citizens or by the government housing division and will be managed directly or indirectly by one of these agencies. In each instance a Negro personnel is expected to have charge.

The sponsoring groups are generally composed of both colored and white people. In some cities Negroes are on the regional boards which have supervision of all projects in their cities, both white and Negro.

In Chicago, where the development in its early stages, Mrs. Wendell E. Green, Judge Albert George and Dr. M. O. Bousfield are members of the city-wide board.

Mixed Board in Charge

A mixed board has charge of the Atlanta effort. Dr. John Hope and Miss Reed, president of Spelman being members. In Cincinnati, also in the early stages of initiation, the proposed plans call for one unit housing both white and colored families.

Public Works Administrator Harold L. Ickes has general direction of the housing program. Col. Horatio B. Hackett is in charge

Further discussion on a movement to locate a Negro and white subsistence homestead project west of Indianapolis in Wayne township will be held tonight at a meeting of the Indianapolis Home Builders' Association in the Hoosier Athletic Club. The meeting will be preceded by a dinner at 6:30 o'clock.

Dr. Weaver has made visits to the cities where the various developments are being carried on and is consulted on every step by the officials of the housing division.

Use Negro Architects

Negro architects have been used where they have been registered and have passed the competitive examination. Some of the future plans call for particularly gratifying participation in the program by trained architects, engineers, draughtsmen and skilled artisans.

One of the tasks Mr. Weaver has been engaged in has been an effort to secure places for Negro skilled workmen in these PWA contracts. As a result, a clause has been written into the contracts specifying that a percentage of Negro workmen, comparable to the population ratio be employed on these projects.

Among the qualifications set up for families which will be admitted to tenancy on all federal housing projects are that there will be no discrimination because of race, political affiliation, or religion; that applicants must be citizens, or have taken out first papers; they must be employed persons capable of paying the rental; size of family must be suitable to normal occupancy standards; must have good case histories and after that preference will be given to those who have been displaced through the erection of the building or those who work nearby.

The experiment is expected to prove to private capital that good housing can be furnished to families of modest income at reasonable cost and still prove a good investment.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
STAR

MAR 26 1935
U. S. HOME PLAN
WILL BE TOPIC

Builders Will Renew Discussion—Pynchon Cites Need for Subsistence Project.

Congress Members Reply.

Norris P. Shelby, president, reported last night that he has received replies from several congressmen, including Senator Sherman Minton, Senator Frederick VanNuys, Representative Charles A. Halleck, Representative Eugene B. Crowe, Representative Glenn Griswold, Representative Samuel B. Pettengill and Representative Virginia Jenckes.

Senator VanNuys inclosed a copy of a letter from Charles E. Pynchon of Washington, general manager of the Division of the Subsistence Homestead Department of the Department of Interior. Mr. Pynchon was in Indianapolis and made a survey of the need for such a project. In his letter to Senator VanNuys he cited reasons why the Federal government should locate subsistence homesteads for Negroes.

OPPOSED BY RESIDENTS.

More than three hundred residents of the community near Clermont and Ben Davis last night heard Albert Stump, Indianapolis attorney, explain the proposed Federal subsistence homestead project for the vicinity and voted their disapproval. The meeting was held in the Ben Davis High School and was the culmination of several weeks of activity among residents who insist that the project would affect seriously the value of their property. It was under auspices of the Wayne Township United Taxpayers and was directed by Herbert Eichoff.

CHARLESTON, W. VA.
GAZETTE

MAY 24 1935

A Negro Homestead

The government is reported to have revived its plan to locate a Negro rural industrial homestead in Monongalia county and has secured an option on 535 acres of land for this purpose. We have little doubt that plenty of families can be found who will be pleased to accept such homesteads.

The Negro race is not strong for segregation. The Negro man seems to like to live in communities with the white race. The two races for the most part always have got on well together. There seems usually to be plenty of work to occupy the time of Negro people in towns, cities and rural communities where white people predominate.

The natural home of the Negro race would be in the southern states but experience shows that when opportunity presents itself they migrate to the northern cities where they usually secure employment to their liking. Many of them become good citizens.—Point Pleasant Register.

F. D. R. OUTLINES

RURAL PROGRAM

Resettlement Directors
Are Urged To Keep Politics Out of Their Work.

WASHINGTON, June 20.—(AP)—President Roosevelt today instructed directors of the \$100,000,000 rural resettlement program "to see to it" that the future population from country regions lives and grows up "according to adequate American standards."

"That is the task with which you are entrusted," he told half a hundred officials in Undersecretary Tugwell's organization as they stood about his desk.

As in the case of state relief directors, the President directed resettlement officials that "we cannot, must not and will not let politics enter into this work." "It makes no difference," he said, "what a family in need of rural resettlement, in one form or another, calls itself. The fact is that if the need exists you must help him out and you have my authority—as I told the works progress directors the other day—to disregard partisan political pressure in any case where an attempt is made to exert it."

Mr. Roosevelt greeted each official as he was presented by Tugwell. The President stressed that "on the aver-

age we cannot spend more than \$1,143 for each family taken care of."

"That makes a problem in management," the chief executive said. "It will challenge your ingenuity and require the most careful administration."

The President said attention should center primarily in "taking and keeping" families off relief rolls with the highest possible land utilization as another objective.

"Some small financial help will be enough to tide over an emergency on their feet a great many families that have been hit by the depression," he said.

"In other cases, families will have to be given an opportunity to move off the land they are on and will have to be provided with better land."

"In any of these cases we have to establish a better relationship between the people and the sources of their living."

Coinciding with the presidential instructions, Tugwell set up four divisions in his administration and selected the men to head each. They were:

Land utilization division, in charge of Lewis C. Gray, who has been head of the land policy section of the AAA.

Rural rehabilitation division, to be headed by Carl C. Taylor, who has been regional director under Gray, at Raleigh, N. C.

Suburban towns division, to be headed by John S. Lansill, who has been chief of the land acquisition section of the relief administration.

Management division, to be headed by Dr. Eugene E. Agger, on leave from Rutgers University, where his head of the department of economics.

The land utilization division will study land usage and purchase. Its work will be similar to that of the AAA's land policy section.

Lansill's division will have charge of housing needs for low income groups. Dr. Agger's division was expected to direct the management of completed communities of all kinds and to assist in planning and developing the projects. Functions of the rural rehabilitation section still were being framed.

In addition to these four divisions, the administration will have a headquarters staff.

Farm Project in Landover, Md.

Supplies Food to Self-Help Group

The Central Council of Self Help Co-operatives of the District of Columbia, met in the Giddings School, Fourth and G Streets, Southeast, Monday.

The speakers for the occasion were Elwood Street, director of Public Welfare, and Miss Alice Hill, director of Emergency Relief.

Both speakers expressed their interest in the self help movement, and praised the farm project offered by Nathaniel Guy of Landover,

Md. who presents 2 acres to the Frederick Douglass Self Cooperative so that all who wish may participate in developing an adequate food supply.

This farm is completely equipped with tractor and all sorts of farm implements, hog pens, chicken houses, and over 500 cords of wood.

To Use Script

The Frederick Douglass Self Help Cooperative extends this project to all cooperatives by offering to pay each man or woman who

works on the farm script which will be equal to money value for the working hour of farm labor, and such script will be redeemed as the crops mature from the products of the farm.

Tents are to be erected so that the families may repair to the farm on days when it is too hot in the city. The farm manager, Mr. Martin, will be present each day to enroll workers, and assign them to their respective duties. Trucks and cars will transport the workers to the scene or farm.

Benjamin T. Montgomery is president of the Frederick Douglass Self Help Cooperative, and also president of the Central Council of Self Help Cooperatives.

Clinic Organized

Very inspiring reports were delivered by the delegates, and the most outstanding was that given by Chancellor Williams, of the North East Self Help Cooperative of which Miss Nannie Burroughs is president. He told of the Community Medical Clinic which is attended by the volunteer service of all the physicians and a nurse in that area, and how it serves the pre school age child to maternity cases. He further told about the baking unit, and the canning unit, and also stressed the fact that they were interested in a farm near Malcom, Md. as a means of an adequate food supply.

The Council will meet in executive session, Monday, at which time all definite plans will be drawn up. The meeting will be held as usual at Giddings School.

A Dirge for Subsistence Homesteads

The New Republic 7-24-35
SIR: The papers carry the news that the subsistence-homesteads project is folding up. Eighteen months ago it was obvious that such a program must fail. Millions of dollars were wasted acquiring land that had no relation to population trends. More millions were spent on homes that had no relation to the economic status of those who were to buy them. The project was originated by well meaning, well fed, well housed sentimentalists ignorant of the fundamentals of the low-cost-housing problem and the program was directed by dogmatic executives. . . . The pity is not that such a foolish program has failed but that nothing has been learned. . . .

Either the income of the masses must be raised, by the elimination of exploitation and parasitism, to the point where they can afford twice as big and pretentious homes as their needs require, or housing projects should be dominated by the spirit of research and creativeness which, by experimental trial and error, give the masses enough of the best in housing essentials for health and comfort within the limits of what they can afford.

The New Republic 7-24-35
As it was, the project of subsistence homesteads succeeded only in tossing much valuable time, effort and money down a well. Nothing can be salvaged. Nothing has been learned because nothing creative was attempted. . . .

Flint, Mich.

CORVIN WILLSON.

Thorn Dickinson Given High Post
In Southern Resettlement Program

Thorn Dickinson, nationally known engineer and for the past two years work director of Lowndes County for the Alabama Relief Administration, has been appointed Regional Adviser of the Division of Management for the Resettlement Administration, it was learned yesterday. 10-11-35

In this capacity Mr. Dickinson will have charge of the management of all projects of the Resettlement Administration in the States of Alabama, Georgia, Florida and South Carolina after their completion. His division will cooperate with other divisions in the planning and development of community projects. He will supervise the training of personnel for the management of completed projects, and will supervise financial arrangements with project occupants.

A modest and retiring bachelor, Mr. Dickinson's record of accomplishment and building had spread across two continents prior to the depression. It was then that he came to Lowndes County as secretary of a negro school near Calhoun established by his aunts years ago and to carry on a program of rehabilitation for negroes begun by these philanthropic women more than 40 years ago.

The rehabilitation venture began when his aunts purchased 20,000 acres and sold them in small farms to negroes. Many of the negroes within the vicinity of Calhoun are land owners as a result and the record shows that fewer negroes in that section were on relief rolls than

in any other section of Lowndes County. When Alabama's rehabilitation program was drafted by Thad Holt, Ray Crow and R. K. Greene two years ago Dickinson was called in to advise how the program should be formulated and it was largely through his advice, based upon years of experience, that Alabama was able to turn over to the Resettlement Administration a rehabilitation program that was virtually self-liquidating.

A native of Wallingford, Conn., Mr. Dickinson received his preparatory training at the Fargo, North Dakota, High School and later entered Williams College in Massachusetts, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree from that institution in 1911. In 1914 he was graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at Boston receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering.

His engineering work has largely been confined to road building, drainage, sewer and water supply construction. Among the engineering achievements in his record are: designed and supervised construction of water supply, Bismark, N. D.; designing engineer Ulen and Company, New York, water supply Athens, Greece, \$1,000,000; Construction superintendent, Ulen and Company, water supply and sewers for Sosnowlee, Poland, \$1,500,000; designing engineer water supply and sewer system for three Polish cities, \$2,500,000; engineer, water supply, Stone and Webster Corporation, Boston, Mass. He is a member of the Psi Upsilon

fraternity and the Phi Beta Kappa society. Offices of the Manager Division of the Resettlement Administration are on the fourth floor of the Bell Building.

Tugwell Planning to Aid South's Tenant Farmers

TO MOVE FARM TENANTS.

Tugwell Plans to Shift 1,000 in
South to Own Places

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26 (AP).—An attack on the South's farm tenant problem, involving removal of 1,000 tenants on to small farms of their own, was revealed today by Rexford G. Tugwell.

The chief of the Resettlement Administration reported the trial "cases" would be chosen from four parts of the South for purposes of the plan. The experiment, he said, should "be an indication of what can be done in a national way to solve the tenant problem."

"We have been studying the proposed Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Bill, which was designed to enable tenants to become land owners," Mr. Tugwell said. "We find that we can do in a small way what this bill intends."

North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and the area embracing the point where boundaries of Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana touch have been designated for the selection of specific sections for the tenant trial.

The plan calls for the administration to buy land and resell it to the tenants under a long-term agreement. The agreement, Mr. Tugwell said, probably would run not more than forty years. In some cases, tenants would be allowed to buy the land they now are cultivating. In others they might have an opportunity to move to some near-by farm.

Thousand Selected Croppers Will Be Given Chance to Acquire Own Farms

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26 (AP).—An attack on the South's farm tenant problem, involving removal of 1,000 tenants on to small farms of their own, was revealed today by Rexford G. Tugwell.

The chief of the resettlement administration reported the trial "cases" would be chosen from four parts of the South for purposes of the plan. The experiment, he said, should "be an indication of what can be done in a national way to solve the tenant problem."

He added, in an interview, that he expected to have this and other wide segments of his resettlement plan underway by the time next year's crops have been planted.

North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and the area embracing the point where boundaries of Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana touch have been designated for the selection of specific sections for the tenant trial.

The plan calls for the administration to buy land and resell it to the

tenants under a long term agreement. The agreement, Tugwell said, probably would run not more than 40 years. In some cases, tenants would be sold the land they now are cultivating. In others, they might be given an opportunity to move to some nearby farm.

Farms sold to the tenants would remain under supervision of extension service and resettlement officials during the period of the loans, and administrative help would be expected to assist the tenants to gain a self supporting basis.

The 1,000 tenants to be selected now, Tugwell said, would be chosen by local extension workers and local rehabilitation committees. The advice and counsel of citizens of each community would carry weight in their selection.

Tugwell said both white and Negro tenants would be selected in proportion to the numbers of each in the various areas

Federal Funds - 1935

Subsistence Homesteads.

Project Managers Meet at Gainesville Discuss Plans for Promotion of Projects—Tuskegee Project Is Approved

Tuskegee News 7-18-35
MUST BLOCK IN AREA WITHIN 30 DAYS

Tuskegee Ala. long time development program of the Federal Government. Fifteen Project Managers from the states of Alabama, Georgia, Florida and South Carolina met in Gainesville, Florida July 11-14 to discuss plans for developing Land Utilization Projects in the southeastern states. Project Manager Thomas N. Roberts of the Tuskegee Planned Land Use Demonstration reports that the local project has been approved in Washington for the acquisition of 40,000 acres of land.

More than 20,000 acres of land has already been optioned to the United States Government and orders have been given to block in the unpurchased tracts within 30 days. Mr. W. F. Rutherford from the Regional Office has been attached to the Project staff to lead an option drive to secure the required acreage.

Development Plans

The development plans built around Forestry, Pastures, Recreation and Soil Erosion has been definitely decided. It is estimated that approximately 500 men will be put to work in the near future. During the 20 months of regular work more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) will be spent for labor, supplies and equipment. Persons employed will be drawn from the submarginal area and Macon County. All local labor will be used except technicians and specialists which may come from elsewhere. As soon as sufficient options have been secured and the area blocked in definite steps will be taken to carry on some type of development work which will not interfere with crops and persons on the land.

Resettlement

In the near future resettlement plans will be announced by the Federal Government. In addition to development of the Submarginal area, a special fund will also be set aside to re-settle the stranded farmers on better lands and to help them purchase and develop a small farm of their own. This will give many tenants and small land-owners a chance to own better farms and increase their incomes. The funds spent on re-settlement will be sufficient to take care of any tax loss which may come from property taken from the tax rolls and used in the

tion representing the local project from a trip to Washington.

The committee was in Washington two or three days this week and placed before Jack H. Lansill of the suburban division of the Resettlement Administration the local plan. The committee was assured of interest by the administration in the plans here and was told that an engineer would be sent here in the near future to make the survey.

A. J. Cohen and Judge C. J. Hunter returned last night. Judge Gordon Saussy, chairman of the committee, returned yesterday. D. L. Shealy, another member of the delegation, is not expected to return until Monday, he having stopped over in Columbia.

B. F. Hubert and T. J. Hopkins, colored members of the committee, presented an impressive picture to the Washington authorities of negroes living in crowded conditions in Yamacraw and other sections and said the success of the proposed plan as it would affect the negroes would reduce Savannah's death rate from tuberculosis and other communicable diseases. Mr. Cohen said.

It is evident that the Federal Government is determined to carry out the proposed plan of the Tuskegee Planned Land Use Demonstration. Federal Officials from Washington down have expressed a keen and active interest in our local project. It is expected that citizens of Macon County will give this project their hearty and active support and early endorsement by selling their submarginal lands to the United States Government.

Orangeburg, S. C., Observer

August 16, 1935

Homestead Project Now Reconsidered

Chamber of Commerce has been advised that the Negro subsistence homestead project has been reopened for consideration in Washington and the officials of the State A. & M. college are now very busily working to secure additional data in this connection.

Chamber of Commerce has, with the cooperation of numerous individuals, been making a strenuous effort to get this project reconsidered as it had apparently been closed last year. Mr. Fuller and Senator Byrnes have been particularly active in aiding the chamber of commerce in their efforts in this behalf.

Savannah, Ga., Press

August 24, 1935

SEND ENGINEER ON HOMESTEADS

VALUE OF CLEARING SLUMS BROUGHT OUT IN WASHINGTON

The Resettlement Administration will send an engineer here to make a survey of the proposed Chatham County combination industrial-agricultural subsistence homestead project, it was learned today, following the return of members of a delega-

Federal Funds-1935.

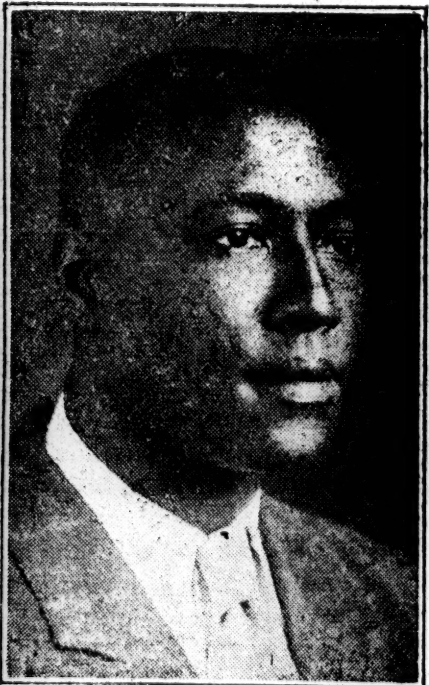
Tuskegee Resettlement Area Project.

Prof. Roberts Gets Federal Appointment

Will Serve As Project Manager of

THE TUSKEGEE AREA

Will Head Staff of Eighteen Workers



Word has been received here that Thomas N. Roberts, professor of Agricultural Education at the Georgia State Industrial College, has been appointed to a position in the division of program planning and policy of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Prof. Roberts will serve as project manager of the Tuskegee Resettlement Area project, which comprises 4,000 acres of land on which farmers will be moved from poor land to more productive soil. This is the only Negro project of its kind in the country and Prof. Roberts will be assisted by a staff of 18

workers including appraisers, field workers, clerical help and technical advisers. His headquarters will be at Tuskegee Institute.

Prof. Roberts who has been at the local college for the past six years, and who has done a very fine job in agricultural education, was selected for the position after a search by the Georgia State Teachers and Educational Association and the National Association of Teachers in Colored Schools.

Locally Prof. Roberts has been active in the civic life of the community. He is scoutmaster of Troop 40; president of the Hampton Alumni Association; ex-president of the Waldorf Club; a member of the Mutual Benevolent Association Inc., Chatham County Colored Citizens Council, and an active layman of the First African Baptist Church, Franklin Square. He has left for his new post at Tuskegee, a very careful search for the proper man. Several outstanding agricultural leaders of both races united in their choice of Mr. Roberts for this important post requiring tact, common sense and a balanced understanding of basic farm economic and social problems.

By training and experience Mr. Roberts is admirably fitted for the task. After graduating in the first class of Cutler Street school, he entered Voorhees Institute where he received the high school diploma in agriculture. He then went to Morehouse College where he completed the work of Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from Hampton Institute and upon graduation was awarded a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship to do advanced study in agricultural economics at the University of Wisconsin. He received the Master of science degree in agricultural economics from the University of Wisconsin in 1932. He is studying on a Julius Rosenwald Fellowship.

His practical experience includes four years of rural school teaching, six years as professor of agri-

cultural education at the Georgia State Industrial College, five years as a director of the 4-H State Camp at the college, one summer in the Rosenwald Extension workers summer school at Nashville, Tenn., and one at Prairie View, Texas and direct contact with basic farm problems gained in his experiences with the vocational agricultural and extension programs in Georgia.

He is a member of the American Farm Economic Association, the American Academy of Political and

ARA To Found Negro's 'Utopia' Near Tuskegee

Advancing \$68,431 For Incorporating Self-Help Colony Of 91 Families

Backed By Moton

Community To Provide All Own Needs, Then Seek Market For Products

The moving finger of the New Deal yesterday wrote the beginning of a new chapter in the concerted drive to end relief and restore a new purchasing power to the destitute masses by helping them to help themselves.

Announced by Gov. Graves as another "national demonstration," notice of approval of "The Tuskegee Self-Help Cooperative of the Alabama Industries Group No. 8," was received from Washington by the Chief Executive yesterday afternoon.

Differing from other self-help cooperative groups in that the Tuskegee group is incorporated to function as a legal entity with all the rights and privileges of a corporation to buy and sell, the project is sponsored by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, and the Corporation's officers are members of the official staff of the Institute.

\$68,431 Invested The Corporation is financed by a grant to the Alabama Relief Administration which, in turn, is authorized to

loan the full amount needed for purchase of land and equipment and initial operation of the project in the amount of \$68,431. The loan is for a period of 35 years at the regular interest rate of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

The property purchased is that owned by the East Alabama Lumber Company and embraces 523 acres, of which about 300 acres are classed as tillable land and an additional 100 acres can be cleared and cultivated. The site is that formerly occupied by the company saw-mill and includes 60 houses, 40 of which are negro cabins, and 20 of which were formerly used for white employees, completely equipped commissary, a superintendent's home, a factory building, a part of which is three stories high, and various mill sheds and outbuildings, processing tax. Advice of the action taken was transmitted by telegram to President Roosevelt, U. S. Senators Hugo Black and John H. Bankhead, and Congressman Henry B. Steagall. A collection already been selected and will be moved into their new homes at once.

The machinery and equipment of the mill will be moved by the East Alabama Lumber Company, since this was included in the purchase. The mill shed will be razed to construct fences, a "piggery" a 10-acre truck farm, and other parts of the project. A cannery also will be installed and operated.

The three-story factory, formerly used to manufacture artificial marble from sawdust, will be converted into a work shop. There the negroes will make for themselves and families, shoes, clothing in a sewing room, furniture, mattresses, farm implements and overalls. Others will be assigned to farming and truck gardening.

To Enter Open Market It was emphasized that the "basic needs of food, shelter and clothing" would first be met for the families before an open market was sought. Tuskegee officials expressed hope that through the operation of this project they would be able to aid the group in achieving a higher plane of living through adult education and educational opportunities afforded the younger members of the families.

A feature of the project will be the installation of a truck farm of 10 acres, in which an irrigation system will be installed. The water for the system will be obtained from old mill logging ponds already constructed. A pig farm and poultry farm also will be operated.

The mill site and acreage was purchased at a cost of approximately \$24,000 and the remainder will be required for equipment, construction, and operation.

Payments to the Alabama Relief Administration can be made either in surplus produce or in cash.

The project will be under the general supervision of Dr. F. D. Patterson, dean of the agricultural department of Tuskegee Institute, and president of the Corporation. Other officers are T. M. Campbell, director of the Tuskegee extension service, and William H. Carter, secretary-treasurer, who is also treasurer of Tuskegee Institute.

450 Negro Farmers Back AAA At Tuskegee Rally

TUSKEGEE, ALA., May 4.—Four hundred and fifty of Macon County's negro farmers held a meeting here today that continued throughout the forenoon, at Tuskegee Institute, for a discussion of their common farm problems and Congressional farm aid legislation now in effect.

Those present unanimously endorsed the Agricultural Adjustment Administration's control program, and went on record as favoring retention and continuation of the Federal processing tax. Advice of the action taken was transmitted by telegram to President Roosevelt, U. S. Senators Hugo Black and John H. Bankhead, and Congressman Henry B. Steagall. A collection already been selected and will be moved into their new homes at once.

The meeting was presided over by J. R. Bryant, chairman of the Macon County Leaders Association. A feature of the program was an address by R. T. Thurston, county agent.

40,000 Acres of Sub-Marginal Lands To Be Purchased By Government in Macon County

A meeting was held at the Court House last week for the purpose of ascertaining if a certain section of sub-marginal lands in Macon County can be purchased by the government at a reasonable figure.

When this meeting was held it was found that the time limit set was too short in which to get the signatures of the residents of this particular section and agree on a price for this land. Consequently, the matter was deferred to a future date. 25,000 acres have been signed up, leaving 15,000 to be secured, that will, with the 25,000 acres, comprise the full amount sought.

When the whole number of acres has been secured the price agreed upon between the government and and the present owners the plans for the project will have been completed.

The name of the project as announced is:

TUSKEGEE PLANNED LAND USE DEMONSTRATION

It is proposed to take out of production 40,000 acres of sub-marginal land and use it for reforestation, game and fish preserve, pastures and recreational centers.

It offers employment for a large number of persons living in the proposed area.

Tuskegee Institute is the administrative agency and the project is promoted by the Land Policy Section, Agricultural Adjustment Administration of the U. S. D. A.

As a result of recent meetings of land holders in the Courthouse, which many prominent local citizens took part in the discussion, new and increased interest has been shown for the project.

The project is a part of the general land adjustment program of the National government and is designed to use the land most wisely in the interest of the greatest number of persons. It is also an indirect source of rural relief.

Quite an array of distinguished speakers took part in the discussion at the meeting held at the Court House last week. The names follow:

Hon. R. H. Powell acted as Chairman, and the following is a partial list of the speakers who participated in the discussion.

Hon. R. H. Powell, Mayor Edwards, County Agent Whatley, Watkins Johnston, Chairman Board of Revenue, Arthur Clements, Dr. F. D. Patterson, President-elect Tuskegee Institute, Thomas N. Roberts, Project Manager, T. M. Campbell,

Extension Agent! Wm. H. Carter Warren Logan, J. C. Calloway and two government representatives.

From information received from Thomas N. Roberts, Project Manager, it is practically certain that the project will go over as originally planned.

As the project becomes more fully completed additional information will be given the public through the columns of The News.

TUSKEGEE HAS IDEAS ON FARM PROJECTS

TUSKEGEE INST., April 25—(ANP)—Evidently taking the position that the various programs being instituted by the federal government for

the aid of "the man fartherest down," should apply especially to the Negro, officials and others associated at Tuskegee Institute have been active in offering their cooperation to the federal government, in the development of a number of the "socialized" projects being proposed these days at Washington.

At Tuskegee they have been studying these federal proposals and keeping abreast of them and the result is an amazing amount of activity in numerous directions which bids fair to be of great service to the farm population of Macon County and the state of Alabama and to furnish an example of possibilities to the south in general.

Large Sums Involved

Three great movements are under way here, one involving a Self-Help Cooperative Association, in which 60 colored farm families have combined to develop a co-operative farm community a few miles from the school. Sixty-seven thousand dollars capital has been granted by the FERA. Another is the Tuskegee Homestead Unit, which comprehends three different projects, one near the school, another at Lowndes Co.,

and still another at Montgomery. The third is the "Tuskegee Planned Land-Use Demonstration" in which approximately 600 Negro farm families residing in Macon County where Tuskegee Institute is situated will be affected.

As approved the plan calls for the expenditure of \$200,000 to purchase of some 60,000 acres of sub-marginal and resettlement lands.

The families that are now occupying poor lands, will be moved off gradually and relocated on more productive sites.

Jobs for Trained Men

Credit for this project is due the Federal Government through Dr William A. Hartment, regional director of the U. S. Department of Agriculture of the A. A. A. Land Policy Section.

The sponsors of this project are Tuskegee Institute, represented by Dr. R. R. Moton, William H. Carter, T. M. Campbell, in charge of U. S. Extension Agents and one of the most useful men in the deep south; Dr. F. D. Patterson, newly elected president; Thad Holt, director of the Alabama Relief Administration; R. K. Greene, director of Alabama Rural Rehabilitation; L. N. Duncan, director, Alabama Extension Service; D. E. Lasley, Judge of the Probate Court, Tuskegee and Watkins C. Johnson, chairman, Macon County Board of Revenue.

Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union

April 27, 1935

NEGROES' UTOPIA NEAR TUSKEGEE

Federal relief authorities have approved plans, and funds amounting to \$68,431 have been advanced, for the establishment of "The Tuskegee Self-Help Co-operative" near Tuskegee Institute, the famous Alabama school for negroes. The project is being acclaimed as offering great possibilities for distressed negro families, heretofore on relief, to place themselves, through this new agency, on a self-sustaining basis.

The project is sponsored by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute and one of the country's outstanding leaders of his race. It will differ from other self-help co-operative groups in that it is incorporated to function as a legal entity with all the rights and privileges of a corporation to buy and sell. The corporation's officers are members of the official staff of Tuskegee Institute.

Funds with which the undertaking will be financed have been advanced to the Alabama Relief Administration, which in turn has been authorized to loan the full amount needed for purchase of land and equipment and initial operation of the project. The loan is for 35 years at the regular interest rate of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

Property already has been acquired upon which the Self-Help Co-operative will be established. It consists of a former lumber mill site embracing 522 acres upon which 60 houses are built, 40 of which are negro cabins, and 20 formerly were used by white employees. Other buildings include a completely equipped commissary, a

superintendent's home, a factory building, a part of which is three stories high, and various mill sheds and out-buildings.

More than 90 stranded and needy families have been selected and will be moved into their new homes immediately. In their new surroundings, working under the supervision of Dr. F. D. Patterson, dean of the agricultural department of Tuskegee Institute and president of the corporation, they will start life anew. The plans call for a ten-acre truck farm, cannery, a pig farm and a poultry farm. The factory building will be converted into a workshop where the negroes will make for themselves and families shoes, clothing, furniture, mattresses, farm implements and overalls. Others will be assigned to farming and truck gardening.

Operation of the Tuskegee experiment will be watched with keen interest by the negroes themselves and by the white people of the South who are so keenly interested in the welfare of their colored neighbors. Its success will mean future expansion of the idea, and that it will be successful is almost an assured fact. Tuskegee Institute has a long record of achievements to its credit, and the fact that the experiment is sponsored and will be directed by members of the staff of that school gives it a distinct advantage to start with.

Further fortifying itself against possible detrimental problems is the fact that first things will be placed first. Basic needs of food, shelter and clothing will be first provided for the families before an open market is sought for any of the surpluses built up. This is sound, common sense reasoning, and a program carried on with this in mind will have far greater chances of succeeding than otherwise.

A commendable feature of the program of activities also is found in the plans for aiding members of families in achieving a higher plane of living. Educational opportunities will be offered to both adults and children.

SUB-MARGINAL PROJECT MOVES FORWARD

Headland, Ala. Farmer

March 21, 1935

Day by day increased interest is being shown by citizens of Macon County in the Tuskegee Planned Land Use Demonstration with headquarters at Tuskegee Institute. Visits to the Project office together with the willingness to option land at a price are signs of this interest. Business men, farmers and public officials have expressed a desire to help this project succeed.

The Regional Office of the Land Policy Section of the Agricultural Adjustment has recently increased the appraisal staff to eight men who are acquainted with land values through many years of Federal Land Bank experience. Federal officials have recently visited the project and were pleased to note the fine spirit of co-operation by local citizens.

Development Plan

The development plan calls for using the 40,000 acres to be obtained for Reforestation, Pastures, Game Preserve and Recreational purposes. The estimated cost of developing these features has already been submitted to the Federal Government for approval. The plan also calls for the purchase of a Re-Settlement Area to take care of persons who live on land bought by the Federal Government.

At the present time some of the prices are too high for the condition of the land and the improvements on them. It is felt that these prices will be adjusted in line with present-day values. As soon as the Federal Government can buy enough land at reasonable prices and the Project is approved, some plans of development will begin. This will give employment to local citizens and release funds which will stimulate every business interest in the town of Tuskegee and vicinity.

THE NEGRO RACE is coming in for its full share of consideration and patronage under the benign aspects of the New Deal. In rapid order came the Housing Program, the "Tuskegee Utopia," and now the plan whereby every negro farm hand will be assisted by the Federal Government in the purchase of a suitable country home, appropriately provided with all the necessary adjuncts to good and happy farming.

The Slum Clearance Projects were the first to meet the light of day. No one has any objection to that work. That is, only the white owners of these negro quarters objected on the ground that their properties were being confiscated against an important provision of the Constitution.

More recently the "Tuskegee Utopia" was launched. That project contemplates the development of a negro colony, with Federal money, which would be ideal in all respects. There would be nothing like it, as this paper understands it, under the sun. Large tracts of land are to be purchased by the Government on which "deserving negro families" are to be placed in model homes, with model farming equipment, and perhaps model mules and milk cows. The Utopia will be an incentive to other negro families not so fortunate as to be selected and financed by the Government (meaning in this instance some theoretical young men in Washington) to construct Utopias of their own. The scheme should work admirably.

Now come Messrs. E. R. Embree, President of the Julius Rosenwald Fund (Chicago); Will Alexander, the Atlanta agitator, and Director of the Interracial Commission, and Charles S. Johnson, head of the Social Research Department of Fisk University, and three talk at length of "peonage" and "slavery" in the South, and suggest that new and presumably better systems be thrust upon us of the long ago.

That is, at a glance, the white man's program, Dr. Embree's program. What the negroes think wouldn't do to mention, as in that case this paper would be charged with inciting the people to riot.

Thus the New Deal and the New South as it applies, in part to the colored brother. Great plans and greater expectation are afoot in Atlanta, Ga. Constitution March 30, 1935

A NEGRO "UTOPIA"

Approval by President Roosevelt of the self-help co-operative community sponsored by President Moton, of Tuskegee Institute, is being greeted in Alabama as the first step toward the establishment of a community that may develop into a negro "Utopia."

The property for the new community, located near Tuskegee, has already been purchased from the East Alabama Lumber Company and consists of 523 acres, of which 300 are tillable, and has on it a sawmill, 60 houses, 40 of which have been used by negro families and 20 by whites. In addition, there is a completely equipped commissary, a superintendent's home, a factory building, and various lesser structures.

Ninety-three negro families have already been selected to be installed in the new community, and these families will be put to work immediately at tasks designed to feed and clothe them. Later on small workshops will be erected for the manufacture of shoes, clothing, furniture, mattresses, farm implements and overalls.

The project differs from other rural communities that have been launched by the recovery administration in that it is incorporated to function as a legal entity, with all the rights and privileges of a corporation to buy and sell. It is being financed by the Alabama Relief Administration through a 35-year RFC loan at a low rate of interest.

Since the community will be a legal entity, it will be able to go into the open market with its agricultural and manufactured products after the needs of its families have

been met. Interest and amortization payments on the federal loan can be made to the Alabama Relief Administration either in cash or surplus products.

The direction of the project will be in charge of Tuskegee Institute, with Dean Patterson, in the agricultural department in charge as president of the corporation. The other officers of the corporation are also members of the Tuskegee staff.

The experiment in establishing a negro agricultural and industrial community, designed not only to produce the needs of the families in it, but as well to sell surplus products, both of field and factory, will be watched with keen interest throughout the south. If successful, it is certain to have a far-reaching influence in future on negro life in the rural sections of the south.

Montgomery, Ala. Journal
March 22, 1935

MACON'S CO-OPERATIVE PROJECT

The extensive co-operative relief project which is announced to be inaugurated in Macon county near Tuskegee begins with the enormous advantage of being sponsored by capable members of the faculty of Tuskegee Institute.

No one knows better the problems of the Macon county negro than these school authorities whose whole attention is given to the study of such things. If success can be made of a large co-operative experiment involving scores of negro families working together in a single community, these Tuskegee aids can bring it about. It is possible in fact that they may succeed in making a demonstration which will become famous by commanding national attention and study.

Farmers Pledge Support to Sub-marginal Project; Brewer and Jennings Tracts Purchased

In a meeting held at the Macon County Courthouse Wednesday morning, June 13, over one hundred interested persons living on sub-marginal land in Macon County pledged their support to the Government in purchasing the land to assure the future of the county.

The meeting was in the form of a round table discussion. Mr. J. L. Bankhead, Regional Assistant of the Resettlement Administration in charge of Options. Mr. Bankhead, a nephew of Senator and Representative Bankhead explained the vast benefits that would come to Macon County if the Federal Government would co-operate with the Federal Rehabilitation Administration to rehabilitate land and the people living on it. He discussed local and present day land values and showed the farmers the big opportunity they had to dispose of land that for the most part was unprofitable. Mr. Bankhead said, "our program does not only plan to rehabilitate land but also to rehabilitate the people living on it." "The Federal Government will co-operate in a program to help the White and Negro tenant farmers and owners living in the area to move and resettle on better lands."

Shortly after the meeting it was reported that the Brewer tract known as the Elrod place was purchased and several days ago the Jennings Brothers sold their land to the Government. Mr. Wiley Bishop Hampton has been added to the option staff and every effort will be made to reach our quota of 40,000 acres by June 30th, said Thomas N. Roberts, Project Manager.

Among the land owners attending the meeting and taking part in the discussion were Senator R. H. Powell, Dr. C. H. Lane, County Agent W. F. Whatley, Mr. C. M. Shaw, Attorney W. M. Russell, H. P. Gunn, and T. M. Campbell, Field Agent U. S. D. A.; Mayor G. B. Edwards of the town of Tuskegee, Mr. Johnston, Chairman of the Macon County Board of Revenue, Mr. H. Fillingim, President of the Civitan Club were also present. The general spirit of the meeting assured Mr. Bankhead and assistant Chief Appraiser W. F. Rutherford that the Citizens of Macon County are determined to aid the project in every way to make it a success.

As we listened in on a meeting in connection with the Sub-Marginal Land Project for Macon County Wednesday morning at the Courthouse the thought came to us of the unforeseen benefit which accrued to our neighboring county, Tallapoosa in a somewhat similar development and we wondered if we, of Macon County, were awake as opportunity knocked on our door.

Less than two years ago, with Tallapoosa County as deep in the depression as any county in Alabama, wide awake county officials persuaded the Federal Government to locate a Soil Erosion Division there as they realized that their best farm lands were slowly "going down to the sea." This development has not only aided in restoring Tallapoosa's lands but the expenditures of the large administrative force and the two CCC Camps have brought an enormous amount of money into the county and we are told that there is not a family in Dadeville which does not in some way receive direct monetary benefit from this Government work. Further, Dadeville has become "the hub" so to speak, for soil erosion work for the whole South and delegations of farmers from other counties and states are constantly visiting that development and all of them spending some money in the county.

Tuskegee is already the hub for almost every development benefiting the negro race. Now it appears that the Federal Government with the full support and co-operation of Tuskegee Institute is proposing to start a Sub-Marginal Land Project in Macon County to be followed by a rehabilitation Project that may become just as valuable to Macon County and Tuskegee as the Soil Erosion Project was to Tallapoosa.

If this is true, and we think it is, it behooves every business man or property owner to lend his full co-operation and active support to this project so that Macon County may benefit from the hundreds of thousands of dollars that will be spent in developing this Project, in addition to the thousands paid for the lands. Already this Project has a monthly payroll of several thousand dollars and as soon as the Project is formally accepted about one hundred and fifty men will be given jobs and a large CCC Camp will be established in the County. It is estimated that a \$40,000 payroll will follow immediately upon the project's acceptance.

A NEGRO "UTOPIA"

Approval by President Roosevelt of the self-help co-operative community sponsored by President Moton, of Tuskegee Institute, is being greeted in Alabama as the first step toward the establishment of a community that may develop into a negro "Utopia."

The property for the new community, located near Tuskegee, has already been purchased from the East Alabama Lumber Company and consists of 523 acres, of which 300 are tillable, and has on it a sawmill, 60 houses, 40 of which have been used by negro families and 20 by whites. In addition, there is a completely equipped commissary, a superintendent's home, factory building, and various lesser structures.

Ninety-three negro families have already been selected to be installed in the new community, and these families will be put to work immediately at tasks designed to feed and clothe them. Later on small workshops will be erected for the manufacture of shoes, clothing, furniture, mattresses, farm implements and overalls.

The project differs from other rural communities that have been launched by the recovery administration in that it is incorporated to function as a legal entity, with all the rights and privileges of a corporation to buy and sell. It is being financed by the Alabama Relief Administration through a 35-year RFC loan at a low rate of interest.

Since the community will be a legal entity, it will be able to go into the open market with its agricultural and manufactured products after the needs of its families have been met. Interest and amortization payments on the federal loan can be made to the Alabama Relief Administration either in cash or surplus products.

The direction of the project will be in charge of Tuskegee Institute, with Dean Patterson, in the agricultural department in charge as president of the corporation. The other officers of the corporation are also members of the Tuskegee staff.

The experiment in establishing a negro agricultural and industrial

community, designed not only to produce the needs of the families in it, but as well to sell surplus products, both of field and factory, will be watched with keen interest throughout the south. If successful, it is certain to have a far-reaching influence in future on negro life in the rural sections of the south.

Options for Sub-Marginal Project To Close Saturday, June 29th

Reports received so far indicate that the sub-marginal project will be successful. Taking of options will close next Saturday. The work of taking options is being pushed with all possible speed. Anyone having sub-marginal land, when approached for signatures should, in our opinion, sign up and help put the project over. This is one of the greatest opportunities for disposing of sub-marginal lands that will likely ever occur during the lifetime of those now residing on such land. Large sums of money will be spent developing this land when the Government acquires it. Those selling will be given better land on which to reside in exchange for what they now have.

Mr. H. A. Vaughan has turned over his 1,260 acres to the Government and says that he believes that the pay for submarginal land is all that could reasonably be expected by sub-marginal land owners. It is his belief that it will be a great advantage to those owning such land to option to the Government at this time.

Tuskegee Expert Scales Down Cost Of Subsistence Homestead Projects

Revised plans for construction of 25 new homes in the negro resettlement project in South Montgomery, along with revised plans for a similar development in Macon County, which calls for building of 50 new homes, have been completed and forwarded to Washington for final approval by Director I. R. Otis, of the Agricultural Department of Tuskegee Institute.

The new plans for the Montgomery project, worked out by Director Otis after previous plans submitted by a Federal planning expert had been rejected as too high, call for expenditure of a total of \$70,000, or an average unit cost of \$2,700.50 will be required by Resettlement authorities in Macon County to check and make final decision on the new plans. Total expenditures in Macon County for the new developments will be an estimated \$75,000, in two colonies of 25 units, or families, each, in the Baldwin community, and in another section of Macon. Tracts of land on which these developments will be made have been approved for purchase by the Government on the Russell plantation.

Tuskegee Land Use Project Launched

Development of the Tuskegee land use demonstration project of the Resettlement Administration was begun yesterday with assignment of 30 workers under direction of Thomas N. Roberts, project manager, according to Dr. W. A. Hartman, assistant region director in charge of land utilization.

The Tuskegee project is the second Alabama project to get under way, the Pea River project having been opened during the past week near Ozark where 175 men went to work.

Labor was taken from WPA lists and from among persons who reside on the sub-marginal land. Employment will be increased as additional men are needed, Dr. Hartman said.

"It is our purpose to show how profitless acres can be made assets by their withdrawal from farming," Dr. Hartman said, "and by development for reforestation, wild life preservation, hunting and fishing and recreation."

"The Tuskegee project is a step towards eventual transformation of the 10,000-acre area, on which more than 200 farm families are stranded, unable to make a decent living or to move to better land."

Eventually it is expected that 120 workers or more will be assigned to the Tuskegee project.

Otis will be in charge of the expanded department of agriculture at Tuskegee, which is being enlarged by a recently acquired tract of 1,700 acres of land and by a new agricultural building, which is to be erected at the Institute by funds being raised in the White South by prominent white leaders as a goodwill gesture toward the South's colored population.

Federal Funds-1935

Subsistence Homesteads.

Bid To Exempt Homesteads Is Killed In House

Offered In Amendment To General Revenue Bill; Killed By Standing Vote

Roll Call Escaped

Reapportionment Measure Reported Out In Senate With Upstate Backing

The Alabama House of Representatives yesterday afternoon in the committee of the whole temporarily dashed the hopes of ~~Montgomery~~ of Alabama for a \$2,000 homestead exemption when the proposal of Representative Kelley, of Clay, to carry out the platform pledges of most of the members of the house as well as the Governor, was shouted down by a standing vote.

The action came when the committee of the whole was taking up section by section the ways and means committee's amendment revenue bill. When Representative Kelley introduced his amendment there was consternation among the membership and a scurrying for cover. Fortunately for the members, there was no roll call by which the people could determine who was and who was not against the homestead exemption. That the homestead exemption amendment will be brought to the floor of the House is certain and there the members will be put on record. They will then have to face their constituents when they go back home and tell them why they ignored the platform pledges of both themselves and the Governor.

Representative Hanks, of Talladega, spoke in favor of the Kelley amendment. He said the homestead exemption of \$2,000 carried out the platform pledges of Gov. Graves and of many members of the Legislature. Representative Poole, of Butler moved to table the amendment for the relief of homestead owners of Alabama and his motion was carried 47 to 37 by a standing vote.

An effort was made while the homestead amendment was under consideration to put over the idea that homestead exemptions were carried in a separate bill and that the revenue bill was

no place for such action. Representative Sanderson, of Montgomery, led in this movement.

It was evident that if there had been a roll call, the homestead exemption amendment would have carried. The temper of the House was for homestead exemptions but members seeing that they were not going on record were willing to kill it. When they go on record, the story may be entirely different.

Auto Exemption Killed

Representative J. B. Goolsby, of Escambia, made an unsuccessful effort to exempt passenger automobiles from ad valorem taxes, but that likewise was quickly voted down.

The House committee of the whole turned down an amendment by Representative Hanks, of Talladega, to exempt personal property to the extent of \$1,000 from taxation, urging that "we are not collecting it anyway, so let's exempt it and forget it."

Another amendment turned down was one by Representative W. C. Taylor, of Mobile, to exempt income producing property of religious and charitable organizations, although the property itself was not devoted to educational and charitable work, was voted down by the House.

A roar went up from the floor when Goolsby sent up an amendment on the personal property to add to the exemptions "20 goats." A roar of ayes greeted the motion to pass it, and when Chairman M. L. Robertson, of Cullman, asked for the "nays against the goats," only laughter responded.

The consideration included substitution of the section of the bill relating to tax exemption for new industries, under which 10-year exemptions will be granted. This section included the provisions of the paper mill exemption act, previously passed.

A dozen or more industries were included in its provisions of ad valorem tax exemption for a period of 10 years.

Representative T. C. Almon, of Morgan, obtained an amendment of another section to exempt aluminum plants and makers of aluminum products for a like period. This was to give a proposed plant to manufacture aluminum at Decatur, the benefit of such exemption as an inducement to new industries.

The House approved the sections maintaining the ad valorem taxation rate at 6.5 mills, three mills for education; one mill for Confederate pensions, and 2 1-2 mills for general revenue of the State. When adjournment was taken, the House had completed study and approval of nine of the 425 sections in the bill. It had covered 11 of the 456 printed pages.

Cotton Exempted

This included permanent exemption of cotton and other agricultural products from taxation so long as it remained in the hands of the producer or his landlord, and for one year after it passes into the hands of the processor.

The House will resolve itself into a committee of the whole again next

week, probably Wednesday to take up the bill again to whip it into shape for final passage.

The House convenes today at 10 a.m. with several bills as special orders for the day.

Two bills to reapportion the Legislature were given favorable reports by the Senate's privileges and elections committee yesterday afternoon, ending a day which saw favorable reports given the Dominick sterilization bill and a measure to strengthen laws governing burial insurance companies.

The reapportionment bills, pushed to a vote by Senator Forney Stephens, would leave the House membership at 106 and the Senate at 35 but would increase Jefferson County's representation in the lower branch to 13 and Mobile's to 4.

Motions by "black belt" senators to postpone action or table motions for favorable reports lost by six to three, with a Senator Carvel Woodall, of Elmore, not voting as chairman.

Vote for Reapportionment

Senators Thrower, of Crenshaw, joined in the "ayes" for the Senate bill after voting against the House bill. Other aye votes on the two bills were cast by Weaver, of Lauderdale; Chesnut, of Cherokee; Mixon, of Marion; Stephens, of Blount, and St. John, of Lawrence. Senators Frazer, of Bullock; Carlton, of Marengo, and Russell, of Dallas, voted "no" on all ballots.

Senator J. Miller Bonner, of Wilcox, also a black belt county, spoke against favorable report to either bill, telling the committee "you might just as well follow the constitution and give Jefferson County the 17 representatives she would be entitled to under reapportionment on a strict population basis."

Swinging from this, Bonner declared "Jefferson is not going to continue to send Jim Simpsons to this Senate."

"A different bunch is destined to dominate politics there from this Legislature hereafter," said the Wilcox Senator, "and you might just as well let a sleeping dog lie if you don't want to give them 17 members in the House."

Russell joined Bonner and referred to documents of communistic activities in Jefferson County presented a revision of laws committee which recently gave a favorable report to an anti-sedition bill.

"We all know a deplorable condition exists there now," said Russell, "and I'm against giving Jefferson 17 members because 17 one-county men would have to vote as a block to balance that vote. Let's leave things as they are now."

Stephens insisted both his bills were based on a population basis "as nearly as humanly possible and pointed to the constitutional provision calling for reapportionment every 10 years.

Shortly before turning to the ever-controversial question of reapportionment, the privileges and elections group turned down Carlton's bill to abolish all absentee ballot laws and gave a favorable report to the Chesnut bill to require "personal" voting of absentee

ballots in a sealed box.

The bill provides the box shall be in the hands of the chairman of the county board of registrars 20 days before the election and ballots may be cast until five days before the election.

Carlton, who lost a "last ditch" move

Greenville, S. C. Piedmont

March 13, 1935

\$245,000 For Negro Project

WASHINGTON, March 13—Secretary Of Interior Harold L. Ickes today approved a \$245,000 allocation from PWA funds for constructing a subsistence homestead project for 100 negro families at Newport News, Va.

Federal Funds-1935

Subsistence Homesteads.

Tuskegee Resettlement Area Project.

Expansion Of Tuskegee Self-Help Cooperative Is Planned By Institute

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., Oct. 6.—(Special)—Purchase of an additional 500 acres to enlarge the Tuskegee self-help cooperative, a Federal project for which U. S. funds were provided, is planned as a move to increase facilities of the 529-acre tract, cultivation of which was begun last Spring. President F. D. Patterson, of Tuskegee Institute, is head of the Tuskegee cooperative, on which there are now 60 negro families. Dr. Patterson is to be formally inaugurated as Tuskegee's president Oct. 28 in ceremonies here.

The decided success of the first several months' experiment with the cooperative has caused applications from scores of negro families that they be given the opportunity to participate in this plan, carried out on the former site of the East Alabama Lumber Company. It is expected that the additional 500 acres will be bought from a tract immediately adjoining the present site of the project, as Federal officials are reported to be favorable to the extension.

Attention is called to the success of the co-op by A. L. Holsey, director of the budget of the Institute, who points to the co-op's achievement and to "the vision and courage of Dr. Patterson in suggesting that the white South erect an agricultural building on Tuskegee's campus" as a goodwill gift as only a part of the work done by Dr. Patterson in the last six months, and as showing what sort of man is Tuskegee's new president.

The support of prominent Southern leaders in forwarding the movement to raise funds for the agricultural building for Tuskegee is typified by the fact that Donald Comer, Birmingham capitalist, is active chairman, and Gov. Graves, of Montgomery, honorary chairman of the Southwide committee which is to help raise funds for this purpose, Holsey says. He then reviews the success of the co-op which makes probable the expansion under Dr. Patterson's direction as follows:

"Although born in Washington, Dr. Patterson spent his first impressionable years on a farm in Texas, where he became imbued with the spirit of the soil. Through the agricultural courses at Prairie View, Ames and Cornell, he made his way to Tuskegee where eight years ago, he became the veterinarian at the Institute.

"Dr. Patterson was never afraid of work. This accounts for the fact that when a vacancy occurred, he was made director of the department of agriculture. When this advancement came he stepped up the activities of his department and through his travels over the State, made himself known as a result-getter. A typical example of his aggressiveness is the manner in which he took the leadership in establishing one of the first negro self-help cooperatives in the South.

"What is now known as the Tuskegee self-cooperative, was formerly the East Alabama Lumber Company, a 527-acre project located three miles from Tuskegee Institute which included the lumber mill and some 60 cottages for the negro laborers and the white executives of the company. When the timber in the surrounding area had been exhausted, the company planned to move to another state.

"With no available work to do, more than 200 employable negroes were thus added to the already overburdened relief rolls of Alabama.

"Officials of Tuskegee Institute, under Dr. Patterson's leadership, began negotiations with the Alabama Relief Administration to convert this ready-made community into a self-help cooperative.

"Federal funds were finally made available and on April 12, 1935, the property was purchased and turned over to a corporation with Dr. Patterson as president. Lloyd Isacs, treasurer of Tuskegee Institute, is also treasurer of the corporation. The Alabama Relief Administration made it a condition of the transaction that Tuskegee Institute officials should administer the funds and direct the work.

"Middle April is late for Spring planting in this section of Alabama, but this did not deter Dr. Patterson, who quickly summoned his associates and organized forces in order to get the mill people at some useful work with as little delay as possible. His aggressiveness and resistance to obstacles were instantly contagious.

"By the middle of August the following crops had been already harvested or assured: 2,250 bushels of corn; 1,800 bushels of sweet potatoes; 10 bales of cotton; 3,000 watermelons; 30 tons of hay; 4,000 pounds of peas; 2,000 gallons of syrup; 100 bushels of peanuts.

"In addition to these crops, listed above, a truck garden, piggery, and poultry project were in operation for the men, while the women were at work at making overalls and mattresses, and canning fruits and vegetables. Pending the completion of a modern canning plant of 4,000 cans daily capacity, the women, this Summer, canned 8,000 cans of vegetables, all of which were produced in the truck garden.

"Other crews have been repairing roads, beautifying grounds, painting and remodeling houses. A community house, including a school for the children, and recreational and health units, has been reconstructed from an old two-story building.

"The success of this project has been so pronounced that Dr. Patterson has received several hundred applications from other sections of the State who wish to move to this community. To meet this demand, Alabama relief officials have recommended a second Federal grant with which to purchase additional land for further expansion.

"Dr. Patterson's resourcefulness in speedily establishing the self-help cooperative is only matched by his vision and courage in suggesting that the white people of the South erect on Tuskegee's campus a modern agricultural building as a tribute to Booker T. Washington and Robert R. Moton, and as an endorsement of the third administration at Tuskegee Institute."

Tuskegee Project To Be Enlarged

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., Oct. 12.—(Special)—Another \$20,000 is to be spent on an addition of 500 acres for enlarging the activities of the Tuskegee Self-Help Co-Op, of which President F. D. Patterson is the president, Dr. Patterson announced yesterday.

A project financed by U. S. funds, the Co-Op bought 523 acres last Spring, on which are almost 60 families, the plan being so successful that U. S. authorities recently approved application for funds to enlarge it. Dr. Patterson was advised yesterday that Federal officials were willing to advance another \$20,000 to enlarge and to continue the experiment.

About 300 acres of this land is adjoining the 1,700-acre tract recently purchased by the Institute to enlarge the scope of its agricultural department to keep pace with plans of the white South to put an agricultural building on Tuskegee Institute's grounds as a goodwill symbol. Another 200-acre tract will adjoin the present tract of 523 acres.

"In enlarging the Co-Op," Dr. Patterson said yesterday, "We are going to try to set up a system that can be used by farmers anywhere. We also are studying the possibilities of establishing a consumers co-op to function in cooperation with the present co-op. We wish to determine whether the success this year was due to association with the Institute, or if it will work anywhere."

Ira Virgin Sells Fairview Tract

U. S. Pays \$17,702 For 73.76 Acres To Go Into

Negro Farming Colony

Purchase of 73.76 acres of land South of Fairview Avenue and lying between Cleveland Avenue and the Southern Dairies plant yesterday was consummated by the Government upon approval of title by H. Burgin Fuller, assistant United States District Attorney.

A check for \$17,702.40 was presented to Jack Crenshaw, attorney representing Ira H. Virgin, owner, as the full purchase price of the property.

The land was purchased in the name of the Tuskegee Subsistence Homesteads, Suburban Resettlement Division of the Resettlement Administration and under plans projected will provide low cost housing with suitable acreage for gardening for 70 or more negro families.

The deal was consummated through the Washington office, no division of suburban resettlement having yet been created within the local regional office.

Actually the project is an experiment, the results of which will aid in gauging the future policies of the Administration in its efforts to eliminate slums and provide better low-cost housing, it was learned. Behind it is the solid and practical leadership of Tuskegee Institute and local white and negro leaders who have emphasized that the project, in no sense will constitute a "something for nothing" undertaking.

Briefly, the plans, as originally outlined, called for the constructing of substantial homes—one home to each acre—at the lowest possible cost and the sale of these homes by the Government to negroes over a long range period. The acre allotted each home would enable the occupant to supplement his income of from \$8 to \$12 a week by raising vegetables and other things needed by himself and that are salable.

The project has no commercial aspect it was said.

Plans for the homes are now being prepared in Washington, but local members of the committee have not received any advice regarding when work will start. On the local committee are Dr. H. Council Trenholm, president of the State Teachers College; J. T. Alexander, extension farm agent of Tuskegee Institute, and C. W. Lee.

The abstract for approval of title was received by Assistant Dist. Atty. Fuller about 10 days ago, who immediately began the task of examining the abstract. Upon his approval of the title he was authorized to pay the agreed amount to Mr. Virgin.

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
November 20, 1935

LAND PROJECT TO BE LAUNCHED ON DEC. 1

Tuskegee Sub-Marginal Plans Include Expenditure Of \$110,000

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., Nov. 19.—(Special)—A \$110,000 program of development of 10,000 acres of sub-marginal lands, with headquarters for the work being established here will be launched on this tract three and a half miles northeast of Tuskegee Institute about Dec. 1, it was announced. This land, most of which is eroded, was recently acquired by the government on terms calling for payment of about \$90,000 by the government.

According to T. N. Roberts, a graduate of Hampton and Wisconsin U., who will direct the work, about 6,750 acres will be reforested, while 1,000 acres will be put into pasture. The remainder of the tract will be used for landscaping and recreational purposes.

Soil erosion methods will be established over the entire tract, this work to be used to demonstrate to Institute students of the agricultural department the manner in which this valuable improvement of worn-out soils can be done, it is planned. The value of Tuskegee's agricultural influence is acknowledged by the government, says Dr. W. J. Mahoney, of Montgomery, in selecting Tuskegee as the site for headquarters in this \$200,000 project of reclaiming worn out lands, another reason why the white South should speedily raise the funds sought for a new agricultural building at the Institute, in the campaign recently begun for this purpose.

The staff of Director Roberts will cooperate closely with President F. D. Patterson, Prof. J. R. Otis, director of the agricultural department, and other Institute authorities in this sub-marginal land improvement plan. Roberts himself is a product of the Institute's far-flung and famous training, though an indirect one, having graduated from the Voorhees Institute, at Denmark, S. C., founded by a Tuskegee graduate, from which he entered Hampton, and later, Wisconsin